

John Heinz

National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum Fact Sheet for Members of Congress

Represented by the following Members of Congress:

Senator Arlen Specter (R)
Senator Rick Santorum (R)
Rep. Robert A. Brady (D-1st)
Rep. Curt Weldon (R-7th)

Contact

Gary Stolz, Ph.D.
Acting Refuge Manager
John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge
at Tinicum
International Plaza II, Suite 104
Philadelphia, PA 19113-1504
Phone: 610/521 0662
Fax: 610/521 0611
TDD: 800/877 8339
E-mail: gary_stolz@fws.gov
<http://heinz.fws.gov>

Profile

Established:	1972
Current acres:	932
Proposed total acres:	1,200
Staff:	11
FY 2002 budget:	\$1,353,100
2001 volunteer hours:	8,564
2001 visitation:	98,235

Purpose

John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum was congressionally established to protect and restore Tinicum Marsh, and to provide environmental education and wildlife-oriented recreation.

Public Use Notes

- Environmental education center and programs
- Canoe launch facility
- Active friends group

Management Activities

- Protecting freshwater tidal marsh and restoring wetlands to benefit migratory birds
- Managing a freshwater impoundment to enhance habitat for shorebirds and waterfowl
- Protecting and enhancing habitat for threatened and endangered species such as southern leopard frog, red-bellied turtle, bald eagle, piping plover and peregrine falcon

Highlights

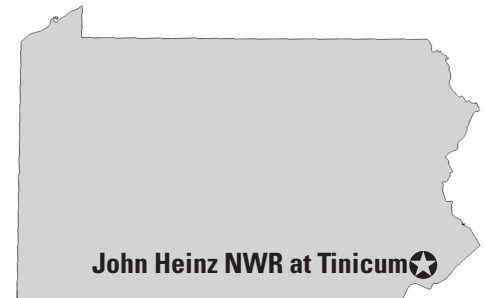
Nearly 300 species of birds have been observed on the refuge. Eighty-five of the species have historically nested at Tinicum Marsh.

The Cusano Environmental Education Center opened in January 2001. Built through a partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and private donations, the center focuses on urban issues, local ecology and wetlands. The exhibits, library, classrooms and meeting areas are open to the public.

The refuge's environmental education program reaches 7,000 students annually in the form of field trips, workshops and presentations.

Issues

The Service is working with the Environmental Protection Agency to assess contamination and potential remediation of the lower Darby Creek Area Superfund site. The site includes the refuge and two nearby sites.



The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

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1 800/344 WILD
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